

SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY ¹	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS ²	EXAMPLE PROJECTS ³
Agriculture & Forestry	To recognize individuals, businesses, or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional achievement in developing sustainable resource management programs for agricultural or forestry operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kings continually make environmental improvements each year, including using a gravity flow watering system to decrease electricity use and installing a new energy efficient, variable-speed vacuum pump for its milking parlor. (<i>The Steven King Dairy Farm, 2010</i>) Take Root Chattanooga which is a non-profit organization which planted 1,500 trees in downtown Chattanooga in a span of 2 years (<i>Take Root Chattanooga, 2009</i>)
Aquatic Resource Preservation	To recognize the organized and sustained efforts of individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that improve or protect an aquatic ecosystem in Tennessee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of the aquatic ecosystem Impact to the biological integrity and diversity of the aquatic ecosystem Integrated effort relating to adjacent land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The YMCA converted a traditional parking lot and built an all-green parking area, showcasing various green technologies. (<i>City of Athens and the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA, 2010</i>) In 2008, more than 3,500 feet of stream banks were treated. BMPs including short-term control measures, as well as long-term activities designed to promote the natural functioning of the land and to improve water quality and quantity. (<i>Duck Rivers Opportunities Project, 2009</i>)
Building Green	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that further the widespread use of green building materials, deconstruction and construction techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with existing green building programs Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced its operating costs through environmental and design efficiency when creating the new location. (<i>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee's Cameron Hill Campus, 2010</i>) Three newly constructed residence halls located within the Commons at Vanderbilt University are LEED - Gold Certified by USGBC. Vanderbilt has a total of seven LEED-certified buildings (<i>Vanderbilt University – The Commons Phase II, 2009</i>)
Energy Leadership	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and communities for demonstrating outstanding leadership in improving energy efficiency, developing advanced energy technologies, and using renewable energy resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processes used to optimize the amount of energy consumed in operational activities (<i>if applicable</i>) Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new facility in Franklin includes a site design that minimizes energy consumption, maximizes open space, uses high-recycled content materials and incorporates on-site renewable resources. (<i>Nissan Americas North American Headquarters, 2010</i>) Established a ground-breaking educational track for students and faculty at David Crockett High School. This project assists students in the acquisition of cutting-edge technology, knowledge, skills and increased awareness of the growing career and educational opportunities in the green economy. (<i>Crockett Goes Green, 2009</i>)
Environmental Education and Outreach	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance of the educational and outreach efforts to environmental issues that are particularly pertinent in a given community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rainy Day Brush-Off is an artistic rain barrel competition featuring actual works of art on 55-gallon rain barrels to help raise awareness about water conservation and water pollution. (<i>Water Quality Forum's Rainy Day Brush-Off, 2010</i>) Environmental Education Classroom and Habitat is an environmental classroom and teaching trail, which promotes environmental education in a hands-on science atmosphere. (<i>Bridgestone Firestone, 2009</i>)
Green Schools	To recognize schools that encourage pollution prevention projects on their campuses while increasing the environmental awareness of students and staff; awarded to 1 K-12 school and 1 institution of higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in addressing issues relating to air quality; energy, land, or water conservation; hazardous materials management; or solid waste reduction Participation by the student body, staff, faculty, and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The University School of Nashville involves students of all ages in "greening" its campus. (<i>University School of Nashville, 2010</i>) Engaged in a combination of sustainability initiatives: including new building design; green job education and student participation in recycling. (<i>Pellissippi State Community College, 2010</i>)

¹ There must be a three year window between wins for each category

² These specific considerations are taken into account in addition to the standard judging criteria of ambition, innovation, education, cooperation, achievement, and commitment.

³ For complete descriptions of the project examples, please refer to the Previous Award Winners section on the awards Web Site, www.tn.gov/environment/awards

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS	EXAMPLE PROJECTS
Greenways and Trails	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have achieved significant progress in furthering the protection or development of Tennessee's greenways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on particularly significant river corridors, scenic trails, and other areas of cultural value Involvement of neighboring communities Collaboration with regional or statewide initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The city added a 3.6-mile trail to its greenways and trails system. This particular addition was constructed on a six-mile abandoned rail bed with a projected cost of \$2.5 million. (<i>City of Clarksville Greenway, 2010</i>) This project provides flood protection and mitigation, aquifer protection and infrastructure protection. (<i>Wolf River Environmental Restoration Project, 2009</i>)
Hazardous Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of hazardous wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall impact to human health Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tri State changed its waste handling and mixing processes with results enabling it to drop from a large quantity to small quantity generator. Non-hazardous waste is now sent off-site for beneficial reuse. (<i>TriState Distribution, Inc., 2010</i>) Invested \$750,000 to specifically reduce their hazardous waste generation by 100 percent. (<i>Tennessee Galvanizing, 2009</i>)
Solid Waste Reduction	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have eliminated or reduced the generation of solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of commitment in the reduction of solid waste being disposed of Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The task force created the Knoxville Regional Medication Program. The program has collected more than 1,000 lbs of medication from more than 600 participants at various events and at the permanent 24-hour drop-off boxes. (<i>Knoxville Regional Medication Collection Program, 2010</i>) Re-evaluated its processes for waste and recyclable materials management to reduce its environmental footprint in reduction of CO2 emissions, lower energy consumption, decrease water usage and reduce waste from operations. (<i>Procter and Gamble, 2009</i>)
Lifetime Achievement	To recognize individuals who have devoted at least 25 years of effective and valuable service to Tennessee's environmental protection or conservation stewardship; posthumous awards not made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notable personal achievements in areas such as natural resource management, conservation, education, public service, and political support toward Tennessee's conservation and/or environmental protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Jean C. Nelson, 2010</i> <i>Judge Larry Potter, 2009</i>
Natural Heritage Conservation	To recognize individuals, organizations, businesses, or agencies for achievements in protecting, preserving, or restoring Tennessee's natural landscape and native flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability of project to address multiple environmental, educational, recreational, and economic goals Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of biological diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It includes the acquisition and preservation of a 324-acre area with approximately 225 acres of old-growth forest in Nashville. (<i>Friends of Warner Park "Save Our Ancient Forest", 2010</i>) The University of the South and the Land Trust for Tennessee completed the purchase and permanent protection of nearly 3,000 acres on the South Cumberland Plateau in Franklin County. (<i>Lost Cove, 2009</i>)
Parks and Recreation	To recognize public sector parks for achievements in implementing best management practices and creating innovative solutions to today's recreational issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent to which project addresses issues of recreational trends and environmental balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thirty-three percent of the waste produced by the festival (by weight) was diverted from the landfill. (<i>Sustainable Bonnaroo, 2010</i>) Made many improvements in water conservation, water quality management, wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety and outreach and education. (Bear Trace at Harrison Bay Golf Course, 2009)
Pollution Prevention	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that are committed to corporate environmental stewardship & that have significantly reduced or eliminated sources by modifying production processes, promoting the use of non-toxic or less-toxic substances, implementing conservation techniques, & re-using materials rather than putting them into the waste stream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of management commitment in preventing pollution through source / waste reduction and avoidance of media transfer Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Green Lodging program encourages hotels, bed and breakfasts and other lodging facilities and restaurants to be aware of their environmental impact and to take steps reducing their carbon footprint, while enhancing the overall sustainability of their operations. (<i>Chattanooga Green Lodging Certification Program, 2010</i>) Sought an alternative process to reduce waste from their pre-treatment wash operation, which serves as the final powder coating for manufactured parts. (<i>JTEKT Corporation, 2009</i>)